

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 505 Community Colleges
SPONSOR(S): Henriquez and others
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

| REFERENCE | ACTION | ANALYST | STAFF DIRECTOR |
|--|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1) <u>Community Colleges & Workforce Committee</u> | <u></u> | <u>Thomas</u> | <u>Ashworth</u> |
| 2) <u>Education Appropriations Committee</u> | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> |
| 3) <u>Governmental Operations Committee</u> | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> |
| 4) <u>Education Council</u> | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> |
| 5) <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> |

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 505 provides that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football.

Currently, 25 community colleges in Florida sponsor intercollegiate athletic programs, which include baseball, basketball, swimming, golf, fast-pitch softball, volleyball, and tennis. State Board of Education Rule prohibits community colleges from including intercollegiate football.

Under the provisions of HB 505, a community college could choose to include an intercollegiate football program. Federal gender equity laws would require adding 1.2 female athletes for every male football player at the college to maintain gender equity.

The estimated cost of a football program is \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 per year.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provide Limited Government: The bill authorizes community colleges to include intercollegiate football as part of the athletic program.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Community colleges are not required to participate in intercollegiate athletic programs. Of the 28 community colleges in the state of Florida 25 of them sponsor intercollegiate athletic programs and participate in four athletic conferences under the direction of the Florida Community College Activities Association. Athletic programs may include baseball, basketball, swimming, golf, fast-pitch softball, volleyball, and tennis.

Currently, State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.058 states that community colleges are prohibited from including intercollegiate football as an authorized student activity. Statutory authority for this rule is in s. 1001.02(1) and (9), F.S. Section 1001.02(1), F.S., authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules to implement provisions of law conferring duties upon the SBOE for the improvement of the education system. Subsection (9) of the same section of law requires that the SBOE rules for community colleges must address program offerings, provisions for program service areas, nonclassroom activities, and student services.

The number of community colleges sponsoring National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) intercollegiate football programs is on the decline. In the 1993-94 academic year, 78 community colleges sponsored intercollegiate football. By 2005-06, only 69 community colleges sponsored intercollegiate football.

Effects of Proposed Changes

HB 505 provides that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football. The bill does not require a community college to sponsor an intercollegiate football program.

Expense

The estimated recurring cost of a football program is \$750,000 – \$1,000,000 a year.¹ This figure includes facilities, equipment, coaching and other staffing, scholarships, catastrophic insurance, medical examination and care, and travel.

Gender Equity

Title IX requirements would pose an obstacle for community colleges that sponsored intercollegiate football. The mandate would require adding 1.2 female athletes for every male football player at the college to maintain gender equity.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends s. 1001.65, F.S.; providing that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

¹ Florida Department of Education 2006 Legislative Bill Analysis, January 11, 2006, at 2.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The estimated recurring cost of a football program is \$750,000 – \$1,000,000 a year.² This figure includes facilities, equipment, coaching and other staffing, scholarships, catastrophic insurance, medical examination and care, and travel. Community colleges will need to weigh the cost to support an intercollegiate football program against the benefits of having such a program.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not appear to require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

² *Id.*

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES